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**SECRETARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AWARDS  
\$3,022,650 IN WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION GRANTS**

MARSHFIELD – Secretary of Environmental Affairs, Ellen Roy Herzfelder announced the awarding of ten (10) grants totaling slightly more than \$3 million through the Drinking Water Supply Protection Program

Communities that are awarded the Grants are required to provide a matching grant (i.e. federal funds, funding through the Community Preservation Act, etc.) as well as guarantee that land acquired under this program will be open to the public for appropriate recreational uses so long as consistent with water supply protection regulations

In her remarks, Secretary Roy Herzfelder noted, “This is a great example of a partnership involving the state and the local communities, and it shows that together we can take pro-active steps to protect water supply sources from the possibility of invasive development that could at some point jeopardize those sources in the future.”

The Grants are distributed directly to communities across the state for the purpose of obtaining and/or protecting land that serves to protect current or future sources of water supply. Protection can be provided by either outright ownership, conservation restrictions or a combination of both.

The town of Marshfield, which hosted the award announcement, was among the recipients and received \$410,000 for the protection of seven (7) acres located near two drinking water supply wells at Ferry Street and Church Street. Under the terms of this Grant, Marshfield will need to provide matching grants bringing the total cost of the project to \$820,000.

Marshfield initiated this step because these are relatively shallow wells, and there is concern about the possible negative impacts that could result from residential and commercial development and septic systems. The parcel of land involved here, actually abuts land that the

town already owns. Obtaining this latest piece would create a contiguous and expanded assemblage of protected land.

The Secretary also highlighted during her remarks, the \$454,3000 Grant awarded to the town of Cohasset for the protection of 67 acres. Cohasset will also be required to provide a matching grant meaning the total cost of the project is \$908,600.

In Cohasset, eleven (11) parcels will be acquired to help protect Lily Pond and its tributaries. Lily Pond provides drinking water for 90% of the town's residents. In addition, these parcels also abut town-owned land, Wompatuck State Park or Whitney and Thayer Woods.

The other recipients are:

- Dartmouth – A Grant of \$24,050 for the protection of 15.66 acres. (Total Project Cost: \$48,100)
- West Groton Fire District – A Grant of \$395,000 for the protection of 94 acres (Total Project Cost: \$790,000)
- Wareham Fire District – A Grant of \$160,000 for the protection of 23 acres (Total Project Cost: \$321,000)
- Hatfield – A Grant of \$33,800 for the protection of 14.4 acres (Total Project Cost: \$94,800)
- Barnstable – A Grant of \$500,000 for the protection of 13.24 acres (Total Project Cost: \$1,074,300)
- Westford - A Grant of \$500,000 for the protection of 286 acres (Total Project Cost: \$13,500,000)
- Westfield – A Grant of \$45,000 for the protection of 35 acres (Total Project Cost: \$90,000)
- Worcester – A Grant of \$500,000 for the protection of 215 acres (Total Project Cost: \$2,025,000)

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